the Statutes of the University, which do not fetter the discretion of the Visitor and restrict his choice in any manner.

Elementary Education in Gujarat

1942. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of children enrolled during the last three years, in the age group of 6 to 14 years in Gujarat for elementary education and what was the percentage of children enrolled in this age group in the State during the period, year-wise;

(b) the total number of primary schools functioning in the State to provide elementary education;

(c) whether these schools are enough to cater to the needs of all the children of the age group in the State;

(d) if not, whether Government propose to provide Central funds for opening more primary schools in Gujarat; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) According to the avilable information the total number of children enrolled in primary and upper primary classes and the Gross Enrolment Ratio during the last three years in Gujarat is as follows:

Year	Total Enrolment	Gross enrolment ratio	
		Primary	Upper Primary
1993-94	79,78,149	119.9	69.6
1994-95	81,49,088	123.4	63.9
1995-96	83,19,772	131.4	71.6

(b) and (c) According to information furnished by Government of Gujarat the number of primary schools functioning in the State is 33,119. The State Government is of the view that these schools are enough to cater to the needs of the children of this age group in the state.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Destruction of Monuments by Quarrying

1943. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that use of explosive for sandstone quarrying is destroying various National monuments, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Taj Mahal and the Fatehpur Sikri are dying because of such acts and

(c) what steps Archaeological Survey of India is taking to save our National monuments and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) No specific damage to centrally protected monuments has been established as a result of explosives used for sandstone quarrying.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Archaeological Survey of India has brought to the notice of the concerned authorities in the States to take necessary measures to stop quarrying in the vicinity of centrally protected monuments. Relevant notifications in this regards have been brought to the notice of the State Governments.

Review of Examination System

1944. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to change/review the present day education

and examination system at school level, which causes, great psychological stress on the students and leads them to take extreme steps like suicide, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when there will be a comprehensive review of the education system for making it more interesting for the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The Government have come across occasional reports of suicides following declaration of results of examinations. These incidents are related to a number of factors including individual personality, home environment, peer pressure and a situation in which career opportunities are very limited in relation to a mounting number of aspirants and examinations being a major determinant of career path.

The functional steps envisaged in the National Policy of Education 1986 and reiterated in the Programme of Action 1992 include elimination of excessive elements of chance and susbjectivity, removal of the emphasis on memorisation, continuous and comprehensive evaluation, improvement in conduct of examination, introduction of semester system from Secondary stage and use of grades in place of marks. Implementation of this policy and introduction of requisite reforms within the educational sytem is a continuous process.

Branding of Freedom Fighters as Terrorists

1945. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESORUCE DEVELOPMENT be pelased to state:

(a) whether any State Government's Education Department is authorised to brand freedom fighters as terrorists, as it is done in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, since when Government made such decision; and

(c) if not, how the Central Government reacted to Uttar Pradesh Government's efforts to repaint freedom fighters as terrorists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESORUCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The Government have no information about the efforts of the Government of Uttar Pradesh, as referred to in the quesiton, to repaint freedom fighters as terrorists. No such authorisation has been either sought or given.

Neglect of Qutab-ub-Din Tomb

1946. SHRIMATI URMILABEN:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Hazira' a tomb of Mughal Emperor Jahangir's tutor Qutab-ub-Din, built in 16th century and 'Tambakarwada in Rapura, built in 19th century in Baroda, which are of historical and archaeological importance, are in utter state of negligence;

(b) whether it is a fact that these monuments are further under distress due to vandalism by the local people;

(c) whether the present arrangement for the protection of these monuments under ASI is not adequate; and

(d) if so, the measures Government propose to take for proper up-keep and maintenance of these monuments?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESORUCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The centrally protected monuments are in a good state of preservation.